

## Passover Blood Drive

Sha'ar Zahav will hold its first mid-year blood drive on Saturday, April 6. Donations can be made on a drop-in basis at Irwin Memorial Blood Bank from 10:30 am until 2 pm, but we're hoping that most donors will sign up for their appointments in advance by calling Kate Sharp at 526-2394 (9 am to 9 pm).

The blood drive is sponsored by the Women's Chavurah. Jonathan Goldman is coordinating the event, as he did for the High Holy Days Blood Drive last year. If you have questions about donating, or if you'd like to bring something kosher-for-Passover to serve to those who have donated, please give him a call at 641-4231.

For those folks who have always wanted to donate but who've been too circumspect to just dive right in, this blood drive offers a unique opportunity. Jonathan or Kate will arrange for you to follow an experienced donor through the process of donating; we're hoping to take anxiety levels down by showing people what it really is like to

donate. Our hope is that graduates of this program will become first-time donors at one of the next CSZ drives.

There's a constant need for blood in the Bay Area, and occasionally a critical shortage arises. These shortages are of both common and uncommon blood types; everyone's blood type is sometimes in scarce supply. Members and friends are urged to donate to the Sha'ar Zahav account year-round. Our members and AIDS patients are able to draw against the credits in the CSZ account, which defrays a sizeable expense often not covered by medical insurance.

Just as important is the service our donations do for the wider community; the blood we donate is used in a short time by someone injured in an accident, undergoing major surgery, or with a life-threatening condition. Blood is never transfused casually; when it's given, a serious situation exists. Each donation has the potential of saving a life. Sometimes the life belongs to someone we care a lot about.

## Passover 1991

Come celebrate our annual Congregational Seder on Saturday, March 30, starting promptly at 6:30 pm.

This year we have changed the location and are planning our celebration at the lovely, historic Fort Mason Officer's Club. Space is limited (first come, first served) and, based on past years, we know it will be a sell-out. So please be forewarned and get your reservations in by the due date—March 15. Reservation forms are in this *Forward* with all the details.

Just a reminder that we offer subsidies for our seder. If you need a subsidy, please make a request on your reservation form.

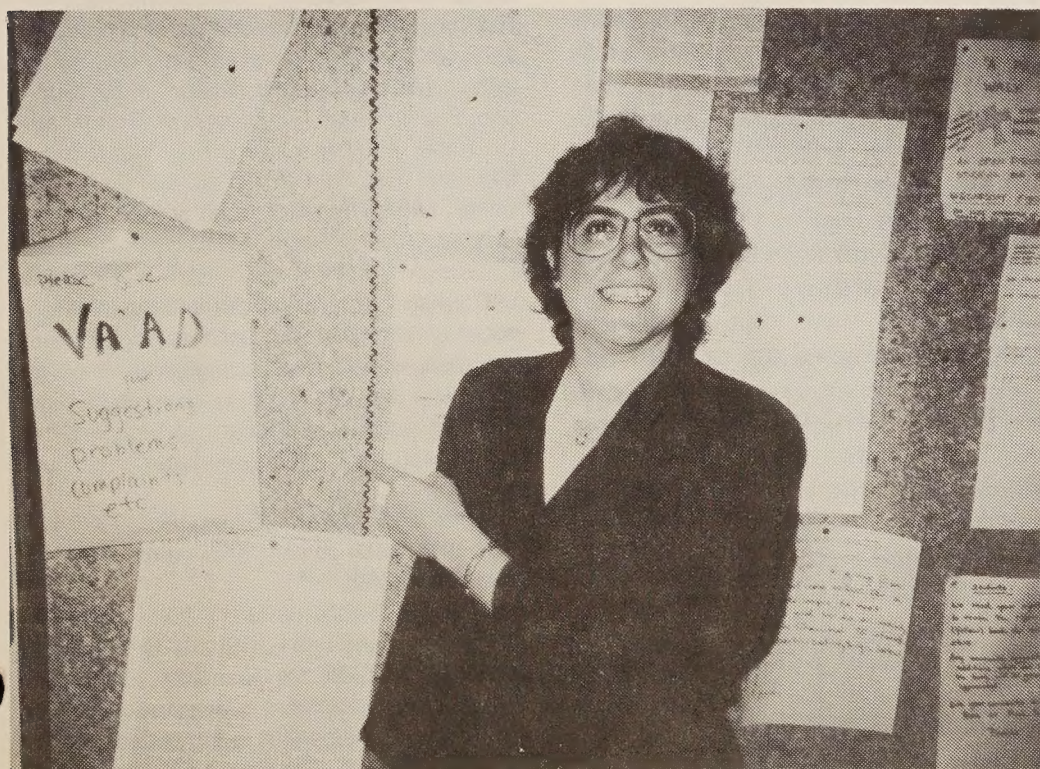
A few willing volunteers are needed as usual—for that day and for a few hours a day or so earlier. It can be fun, so contact Shirley Liberman at 863-7500 ext. 123.

## Passover Yizkor Service

Yizkor, the Jewish memorial service, will be observed on the last day of Passover, Saturday, April 6, at 4 pm. The Yizkor service on April 6 will include remembrance of our communal losses along with individual names gathered at the time of the service. As we live through these years of continuing loss, Yizkor may be an opportunity to pause and remember those whose deaths we could not mourn at the time. The service and the Passover season will conclude with Havdallah. Traditionally, Yizkor services were held at Yom Kippur and on the three pilgrimage festivals of Succot, Passover and Shavuot. This is our second annual Passover Yizkor service. Additional services during the year will be scheduled if members so request.

## No Shabbat Service Friday, March 29

CSZ will not have a Shabbat evening service on Friday, March 29, the night of the first Seder. There also be no services the following morning, March 30.



Our Leslie Bergson pointing at a familiar sign in the "Student Union" at Hebrew Union College in Jerusalem. PHOTO BY RON LEZELL



## War and Inner Conflicts

There are many casualties in any war. Invariably one of the first is language. Daily the military briefers announce that these thousands upon thousands of air strikes have been "softening up" the Iraqi troops. Despite the smart bombs' "surgical precision," there has been a substantial amount of "collateral damage." From the purely military perspective, the death and destruction which accompanies a successful attack on a military target can be dismissed as "collateral damage." We cannot, however, overlook the loss of life as a "side effect" of the war.

Collateral damage is a great euphemism in a sanitized war. Hands honed in years of practice at the video arcade send missiles to a direct hit on their target, and all the consequences which we see on the TV in the real war seem to be no greater than the consequences when we play at the video screen.

We have been spared the "collateral damage" of bombings and missiles. But Americans want a war with no collateral damage to our daily lives at all—no disruption in the availability and price of gasoline, no disruption of the flow of traffic, no inconveniences to our schedules. The war may rage far away but we can now safely restrict its intrusion into our lives to our daily dose of Dan, Peter or Tom.

During the months preceding the war, many of us had a relatively clear and uncomplicated position. Once it began, at first it seemed that most of us did not know anyone personally who was involved in this war, whether as an initiator or victim of military action or at risk of collateral damage.

My internal conflicts came to a head about a week after the first missiles were launched, the week of my deepest despair and greatest confusion. I was visiting a friend—a long-time peace activist—who said, to my surprise, "Saddam Hussein has got to go. This man is crazy. I cannot forgive his deliberate release of all the oil into the gulf..." For this person, the collateral damage of the war had finally penetrated his field of vision sufficiently to radically alter his position.

Well, I was outraged! This was the week of almost daily SCUD attacks on Tel Aviv, and it took an *oil spill* to con-

vince him that there is a real danger and negotiation may not be enough? I was filled with my self-righteous anger and outrage until I asked myself suddenly, "So, Yoel, when did *you* really begin to care? Don't you care more about the children of Tel Aviv than the children of Baghdad?" The truth is that on some levels I do not and on many levels I do. I care about everyone who is oppressed, about all humanity, I care about all creation, I care about the universe—but I can't care about all of them all of the time and with the same passion. There are times when I must withdraw my gaze from the big picture to concentrate on my own.

Said Rabbi Hillel in the Mishnah: "*Im ain ani li, mi li?* If I am not for myself, who will be for me?" Hillel is not making a moral claim but a factual statement. We do not have to be embarrassed about our love and concern for our people or apologize for defending the land and state of Israel. I do care about the children of Tel Aviv—because no one else does in the way that we do.

The naked anti-Semitism of Saddam was revealed in his rush to send missiles on unprotected cities in a country that is not a party to the war. And the foolish so-called progressives who rushed to justify these acts of wanton violence in the name of justice for the Palestinians made me sick. We must continue to speak out against anti-Semitism—like the suggestions that Israel is America's imperialist outpost in the Middle East or that raining missiles on residential areas is a defensible act in support for the goals of the intifadah.

*Im ain ani li, mi li* reflects the historical consciousness of a people who for thousands of years were without political power, discriminated against and oppressed in numerous ways. Out of this history has evolved a preoccupation with defending the safety of Jews and a communal identity whose most widely shared value is the commitment to survival. But if this were the entirety of my Jewish commitment, I'd join the Jewish Defense League.

Hillel's teaching continues: "*U'ksheh ani l'atzmi, ma ani?* If I am only for myself, what am I?" Our visions and concerns properly begin with the self and our immediate circle. Hillel says,

fine, take care of the self; but if you are only for the self—what kind of person are you? Hillel's answer, albeit unspoken, can be clearly heard: the person, the Jew, the human who is created in God's image is not only concerned with the self.

As Jews, as Americans, as people—we are concerned for Palestinians and Palestinian human and political rights. We do care about the people and children of Baghdad and Iraq just as we have compassion for the young soldiers and for all who love them. Yet the freedom to focus primarily on the needs of others is a luxury which belongs to those

*Continued on page 5*

**The Jewish Gaily Forward** is published by Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, (415) 861-6932. Permission to reproduce material is freely given, and credit would be appreciated.

Members of the Congregation receive the *Forward*. For a donation of \$12/year, non-members will receive the *Forward*.

All newsletter copy should be typed, double-spaced and is due no later than the date of the Va'ad meeting. It should be sent to the synagogue office, marked to the attention of the *Forward*. All material is subject to editing; material will not be returned.

Members of the Newsletter Committee are Howard Blechman, chair, Leonard Brill, Irene Ogus, Alita Rosenfeld, Lane Schickler and Robin Leonard (general editorial and production), Michael Bettinger (photographer), Rick Wilson (advertising coordinator), Elliot Gordon, Frank Hyman, Alex Ingersoll, Sam Thal, Lin Turner, Eli Weinstein and Ron Wilmot (distribution). The *Forward* is typeset by David Lester, Mouse Type Inc., and printed by Lou Greene.

**Display Ads** are \$15 per column inch for non-members and \$10 per column inch for members, with discounts available for size and frequency. Ads should be camera ready; any ads that require typesetting, camera and/or artwork will be subject to a one-time production charge.

**Classified Ads** are \$5 for up to 20 words, plus \$1 for each 10 additional words. No personals accepted.

Payment must accompany ad and should be sent to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, marked attention *Forward* advertising. The advertising deadline is the second Monday of the month. The *Forward* reserves the right to reject any ad for reasons of taste.



## Rosh Hodesh Workshop

The Women's Chavurah of Sha'ar Zahav will be co-sponsoring a workshop with the San Francisco Jewish Community Center on Sunday, April 14 from 10 am to 4 pm. This workshop will be led by Bonna Devora Haberman, a Jewish lecturer, educator, philosopher, and social activist living in Israel. She is the organizer of Women of the Wall, a two-year religious, educational, social and legal effort to secure the right for Jewish women to pray from the Torah at the Western Wall.

The workshop will combine Jewish women's rituals around Rosh Hodesh (the new month); a study of selected texts of particular relevance to women and re-interpretations of the stories of our foremothers Sarah, Rivka, Tamar and Ruth.

Ticket prices are \$30 for JCC members and \$40 for non-members. The Women's Chavurah is being given a group rate of \$20 per CSZ member. Bring a sack lunch. Call Ann Biderman at 661-5168 to reserve a space or for additional information. You must call by April 7 to reserve a ticket at the group discount rate.

## Women's Chavurah Mediterranean Brunch

Mark your calendars now for the following event on Sunday, March 10 at 11:15 am. Do you have a special Women's Chavurah event in mind? Or perhaps you would be interested in helping to coordinate an event? Come join us for brunch at La Méditerranée (288 Noe at Market). We'll schmooze and plan events for the coming months. Hope to see you there! Call Ann Biderman for information or details at 661-5168.



## Anniversaries

- 3/1 Eileen Linda Lynette & Charlene O'Neil
- 3/14 Rudolf Bean & Marvin Steele
- 3/14 Diana Buchbinder & Joyce Garay
- 3/20 Caroline Isaacs & Randy Mayers
- 3/20 Sandy Meyers & Maggie Rochlin
- 3/24 Martin Spector & Rodger Morales
- 3/29 Judith Klain & Marie Chavez
- 4/13 Jane Graeven & Mark Graeven
- 4/15 Scott Feinstein & Ernie Weinstein
- 4/21 Rena Frantz & Ora Prochovnick

## Celebrating Our Unions

Spring is coming and, yes, romance is in the air...

Members and friends who are planning or considering a union or wedding ceremony are invited to a program on planning and celebrating a ceremony of *kiddushin*.

Rabbi Yoel Kahn, a Ketubah maker and other guests will teach two sessions on Tuesday evening, April 16 and 23, 7:45-9:15 pm in the library. Topics covered will include: the traditional Jewish wedding ceremony, contemporary changes and innovations, alternative lesbian and gay ceremony models, legal considerations and other matters. Gay and non-gay, engaged or "just thinking about it," are welcome.

If you wish to schedule a ceremony at CSZ or with Rabbi Kahn in the next six to 18 months, please attend this class.

This class is open to all: free to members; \$40 per couple for non-members. Advance registration is required; please call the synagogue office by April 1.

## Office Notes

Although office staffing has been cut, office efficiency has not. This is due in large part to the volunteers who help out with sometimes menial, but always important tasks. Thanks are due to Steve Davis, Robert Coffman, and Jeffrey Miller for giving us their time and helping the synagogue office run smoothly. One way which *you* can help without even coming to the office is to inform us of changes in personal status, such as your address, phone number or anniversary.

*Dr. Diane Sabin*

CHIROPRACTOR

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Join us for  
**Shabbat Dinner**  
at Sha'ar Zahav

Friday, March 15  
at 6:30 pm

Note new lower prices:

\$9 for members  
\$15 for non-members

Limited seating

Reservations must be received  
by March 11

Call the synagogue office  
to make reservations and  
to specify either chicken or vegetarian

All meals kosher





## CSZ on Cannery Row

I wish Cheryl had been with us in Monterey last month.

Cheryl Orvis was president of the congregation in 1983 when a hardy group of us went to Stockton for our first UAHC regional biennial. We arrived with handouts and copies of the *Forward*, and with very firm opinions on a number of issues. The other delegates were a bit bemused by us, but they were warm and welcoming, as they have been ever since.

In the eight years since 1983, there have been four more biennials, with increasing participation by CSZ members. We attended our fifth conference in Monterey in February, not as new kids on the block, but as national and regional board members, and as delegate faculty. We chaired and spoke in workshops on AIDS, the changing Jewish family, and a number of other topics. Shabbat morning, Rabbi Kahn taught Torah. Rabbi Morris Hershman, UAHC regional director, took a look at the list of presenters and declared, "This looks

like a Sha'ar Zahav biennial!" No—just a good biennial. But we've come a long way in a few short years.

This biennial, more than any other, celebrated the history and contributions of Jewish women. We had our first Shabbat service emphasizing liturgy and poetry written by women through the ages. Hebrew Union College faculty member and theologian Rachel Adler spoke at services on Friday evening, and led a Torah study session Shabbat morning. (I hope we can invite her for a Sha'ar Zahav scholar-in-residence weekend sometime soon.)

It was an upbeat convention, but with one sad note. Al Vorspan, senior vice president of the UAHC, gave his valedictory address. He's retiring in November. Al is "Mr. Social Action" in our movement. He's had a profound impact on the character and direction of modern Reform Judaism, placing us in the forefront of the struggle for civil rights for people of color, for women, and for gay men and lesbians. Whether

the issue was separation of church and state, abortion rights, or religious pluralism in Israel, Al Vorspan's voice was heard in the corridors of power.

When we in Sha'ar Zahav asked the UAHC to get involved in the battle against AIDS, Al and Rabbi Schindler made it happen. Al is a mensch, a good and trusted friend of our community, and will be missed by all who fight for justice.

The convention ended with another Sha'ar Zahav high: CSZ member Allyce Kimerling was elected vice president of the Northern California Council (board) of the UAHC. And Sharon Silverman, whom we honored and thanked at our bar/bat mitzvah celebration, was elected president of the council. Mazel tov to Allyce and Sharon!

Not a bad weekend's work all in all. Cheryl would have been proud of what we accomplished in Monterey—and not at all surprised. Somehow, I think she knows.

—Mike Rankin, UAHC Liaison

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(415) 392-7080



**REGISTER TODAY!**



## Rabbi's Column

(Continued from page 2)

who are not oppressed and are already empowered. Those who are in power and secure need not, on a day-to-day, moment-to-moment basis, worry about their own security and situation; they have power over others and the responsibility to use it wisely. Our situation is that—as Americans, as mostly white, college-educated people, even as Jewish Americans and lesbian and gay people, families and friends in the city of San Francisco—by and large we do have power; and *simultaneously* as Jews, as women, as activists, as lesbians and gays, as people with HIV and other life-threatening conditions and disabilities, we remain powerless in many ways and certainly self-identify as being without power.

What the world seeks to deny us is that we can be both powerful and powerless at once. Our problem with so many of the party lines, regardless of the party, is their limited, one-dimensional analysis, which does not give full voice to the nuances of our situation or our positions.

Some Jews, denying the reality of our oppression, are threatened by Jews who focus on Jewish concerns. Others, so filled up with Jewish concerns, overlook our wider Jewish responsibilities. Thus, someone complained to me about a New Jewish Agenda chapter which wrote a public letter opposing FBI interviews of Arab-Americans and suggesting that this campaign was intended to stir up pro-war, anti-Arab sentiments. While in basic agreement with the letter, this congregant was suspicious that this group is more concerned with defending the rights of Arab Americans than of Jewish Americans, that at a critical time in our history these Jews were more concerned with extra-Jewish concerns than internal ones. I reject this defensive regressive thinking which claims our concern for ourselves precludes room for concern for others.

Our identities and responsibilities are not as simple as others would make them out to be or as we would have them. We need more signs like the one which read: "Zionist dyke against all occupations!" Because it is only such a sign and the person underneath who will not be reduced to a sound bite, the one who risks offending lots of people, who begins to express the nuances of where so many

of us stand. I want to affirm that support for peace does not mean sacrificing our people; that our support for Israel can be simultaneous with our repugnance for the latest addition to the Israeli cabinet; that while Saudi Arabia may be our ally for now, its foreign policy and its domestic policies are matters of grave, ongoing concern. This hour of crisis may have required us to temporarily mute or concentrate less fully on the full range of our concerns for justice—but they remain present for us and we have not compromised on any of them.

As we live through these terrible weeks, we are struggling to balance and integrate the different parts of our selves: as gay and lesbian people, family and friends struggling to survive in an inadequate health care system; as Jews caring for our people; as a people of faith inspired by a vision of *tikkun olam*—justice for all people; as a people of memory, memory of dispersion and Holocaust; as a people of memory, memory of Hiroshima and Vietnam ...

Our identity is not limited to any one of these values; we are all of them, and others too, all at once. "If I am not for myself, who will be for me? If I am only for myself, what am I?"

Trying to mediate between these sometimes conflicting inner demands,

many of us have felt stuck or frozen. Hillel anticipated this, too, and summoned us to action in words which echo though the years: "*V'im lo achshav, aima-tai?* If not now, then when?"

—Rabbi Yoel Kahn

## Oneg Sponsors

During recent months onegs were sponsored by the following generous people:

- 12/21 Alita Rosenfeld and Kate Sharp honoring the first birthday of their son Daniel Alexander Rosenfeld-Sharp
- 12/28 Lin Turner honoring the 50th wedding anniversary of his parents
- 1/4 Mark Pressler in memory of his lover Richard Henderson
- 1/25 Allan and Elaine Orvis in memory of their daughter Cheryl, a past president of CSZ
- 2/1 Richard Goldwasser in honor of his wedding

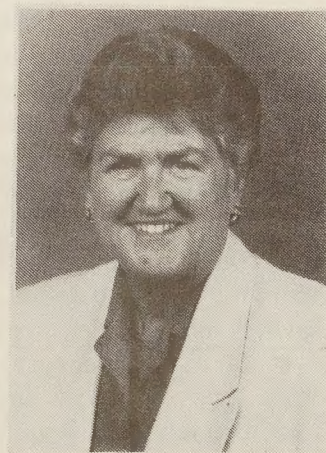
All you have to do to sponsor an oneg is to think of the occasion and contact the synagogue office (861-6932). The cost of sponsoring an oneg is \$50. You can also provide the food, flowers, etc. for a more personal touch.

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## January and February Va'ad Reports

The January Va'ad meeting was focused on the congregation's fiscal situation. A special meeting of the congregation had been held a week earlier, where the membership passed two proposals: a special assessment for the current fiscal year, and a new dues structure beginning July 1.

Before we began work, Rabbi Kahn led us in D'var Torah. The week's Torah portion tells of the plagues brought upon the land of Egypt. Rabbi Kahn spoke of the concern we feel today for the Jewish people in Israel, and expressed concern for all who are involved and their families. He spoke about the conference for rabbis that he attended the previous week. He mentioned that winter classes would be starting at CSZ at the end of January, and informed the Va'ad that CSZ members are eligible for discounts on classes at the Jewish Community Center.

Allan Gold continued the ongoing leadership development discussions and exercises that are a frequent part of this year's Va'ad meetings. The topics included how to handle issues requiring confidentiality and discretion, particularly those discussed in closed session, and what to do if you disagree with a decision made by the Va'ad.

Brett Trueman presented the monthly financial statement for questions and discussion, and reported that letters for both the 1990 special assessment and the 1991 dues pledge were being sent out to the congregation. He also reported the current figures for the projected deficit, which are reviewed and updated as revenues or expenses change. Every attempt is being made to further reduce the size of the projected deficit, and specific savings such as the reduced number of newsletter issues, the recent layoff of the office secretary, and a limit on the costs of unsponsored onegs, will help us meet that goal. Thanks were extended to Gary Glasser and Lonnie Weiss, coordinators of our Chanukah party, and their committee of helpers, as well as Shirley Liberman and Paul Cohen for their work on the latkes and auction.

Judy Schwartz presented 10 individuals and one family as members of the congregation, and they were unanimously voted in. The last item on the agenda was East Bay services. Larry Wexler presented his and Steve

Greenberg's recommendations for East Bay services to be held one Friday night a month. After discussing issues such as insurance for events held outside of the synagogue and the availability of service leaders, the Va'ad passed a motion authorizing East Bay services for a three-month trial period, with a report back to the Va'ad in May or June. The full meeting ended just before 9:30, followed by a closed session of the Va'ad to discuss personnel matters.

The main topics covered at the February Va'ad meeting were finances, governance of the congregation, and maintenance and security of our build-

ing. Rabbi Kahn started the meeting with discussion of the following quote from Hillel: "... the more Torah, the more life; the more counsel, the more understanding; the more justice, the more peace." Brett Trueman gave us his monthly update on the finances of the congregation, and reported on the projected deficit based on the most recent information available. As of the meeting only one-third of the members had returned their 1991 dues pledge forms, which were due by February 1, and this was of some concern to the Va'ad.

Paul Cohen, chair of the Elections Committee, presented a body of recommendations regarding both the number and role of our officers, as well as the length of terms for both at-large Va'ad members and elected officers. The governance portion of the Long-Range Planning Committee's plan-in-progress was the source of many of these ideas, and the Elections Committee distilled and refined them into a preliminary proposal. The changes are significant, involving an additional officer, changes in the functions of the officers, and longer terms for all Va'ad members, both elected and at-large. After considerable and lengthy discussion about the many proposed changes, the Va'ad had a series of non-binding votes, both on the overall proposal and on several components about which there were a variety of opinions. Paul Cohen will present the resulting package to the Bylaws Committee for review, after which a formal proposal will be brought back to the Va'ad.

Mike Rankin reported on the UAHC Biennial Conference last weekend in Monterey. He and the other Sha'ar Zahavniks who attended felt it was an excellent conference and were very happy with some of the workshops and other activities focused on gay and lesbian issues. Judy Schwartz presented one individual and two families for membership, and they were unanimously voted in. Jeffrey Miller presented a series of recommendations regarding building maintenance and security, and the Va'ad passed a motion authorizing pest inspections and possible treatment for termites. The full meeting ended at 9:50 pm, and was followed by a closed session.

—Gail Friedlander

*All members welcome!*

### New Member Potluck

Sunday, March 10, 4-7 pm  
Call 532-9661 for details.

### New Members

The Membership Committee is pleased to announce that our congregation gained several new members and friends in February. A warm welcome to the latest people to join our family:

Joan Goldman, Rachel MacLachlan,  
and Aaron Goldman MacLachlan

Mollee Lusson Klein

Nan Schlosberg, Lisa Szer,  
and Aarin Schlosberg

Ellen Murland

Tsipora Frantz Prochovnick

New members are welcomed and honored at Friday night services on the last Friday of the month. By making them feel a part of our family, we can all help to show our new members that they have a valuable place at Sha'ar Zahav.



## Progressive Judaism

How do Israelis, including those who are not themselves religious, view Progressive Judaism? The ARZA-sponsored Israel Religious Action Center has commissioned a series of public opinion polls to survey attitudes of Israelis from all segments of Israel's population on this subject. Some of the findings:

- 66 percent support abolition of the Orthodox monopoly on marriage and divorce.
- 60 percent of "secular" Jews support the right of rabbis from all streams of Judaism to perform marriages.
- 48 percent expressed interest in giving their children a Reform Jewish education.
- 57 percent believe that new immigrants needing to convert to Judaism should be given the right to have Reform or Conservative conversions.

The polling of the Israel Religious Action Center points to a growing legitimization in Israel of Progressive Judaism as a valid religious stream. It has also succeeded in discrediting the assumption, long promoted by Orthodox leaders in Israel, that most Israelis view Progressive Judaism unfavorably. You can support the work of the Israel Religious Action Center, which promotes religious pluralism and social justice in Israel, by joining ARZA.

## ARZA Wins Grant

For the first time in Israel's history, a city government has allocated substantial funds to a Reform congregation. The grant was made possible by the ARZA-sponsored Israel Religious Action Center, a Reform advocacy group that promotes religious rights and social justice in Israel.

Congregation Emet Va'anava, one of the oldest of Israel's 21 Reform congregations, received a grant of 10,000 shekels (about \$4,000), from the municipal council of Ramat Gan. The grant was made after lengthy negotiations involving the mayor of Ramat Gan, city council members, and representatives of IRAC.

According to ARZA President Norman Schwartz, the allocation is an important breakthrough, and sets a precedent that will be followed by other

cities. Until now, all national and local funding for synagogues has been given only to Orthodox institutions.

Contact our ARZA chairperson, Ron Lezell, at 824-4449, or Rabbi Kahn for more information.

## No Parking Zone

For the past six years, we have been fortunate to have an official city passenger loading zone in front of our synagogue on Caselli Street, although we have to pay for this privilege. For those coming to services and other events, having a safe curb-side loading area has been very convenient. This is especially true for our disabled and handicapped members. So, please do not park in front of our building. Let's keep it as a loading zone to drop off and pick up passengers.

—Jeffrey Miller, Chair  
Building Committee

## Winter Cleanup a Success

The building committee held a work party on Sunday, January 27 to tackle seasonal projects. In addition to trimming trees, bushes and ivy, a general cleanup was performed all around the outside of the building. Inside, plaques were installed on the sanctuary pews to honor those donating the pew cushions. New glass was installed in the front entrance light for better security illumination, and various light bulbs were replaced throughout the building. In the office, a supply closet door was adjusted and the oven door-pull in the kitchen was fixed. Lastly, the basement was inventoried and organized for oneq and kitchen supplies.

The dedicated workers for this party (who completed all projects in record time) were Ken Burke, Jeff Friedman, Jonathan Goldman, Stephan Howard, Alex Ingersoll, Josh Schechtel, and Eli Weinstein. Our next work party to handle spring/summer projects will be in May. Watch the *Forward* for details. All are welcome.

—Jeffrey Miller, Chair  
Building Committee

## Sibling Notes

**Agudah** (Tel Aviv) Israel's gay and lesbian hostel has been forced to relocate, pressured by homophobic neighbors to move. If you're planning a trip to Israel (yes, people are currently visiting Israel) and want to stay at the hostel, its new address is 33 Reiness St. (at Gordon) in Tel Aviv. The cost is \$22.50/night for a double and \$7.50/night for dormitory space.

**Am Tikva** (Boston)—holds Friday night services once a month on the first Friday of the month. In response to a request by several members of their organization, they are adding, for a six-month experimental period, a more "traditional" Friday night service.

**Beth Chayim Chadashim** (Los Angeles)—We gay and lesbian synagogues and organizations know the joys and frustrations of drawing our membership from all over our regions. Just as CSZ has recently begun East Bay Shabbat services, BCC has formed a chavurah for its members living in the San Fernando Valley.

**Bet Mishpachah** (Washington)—along with other synagogues, Jewish agencies and organizations in the D.C. area, will co-sponsor a Jewish Community Dialogue on Gay and Lesbian Jews on March 10. Topics to be covered include Jewish views on homosexuality, gay and lesbian children as part of Jewish families, and the needs of gay Jews in couples, families, congregations and the Jewish community.

**Chevrei Tikva** (Cleveland)—Rabbi David Hachen, regional director of the Northeast Lakes Council of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations was the guest speaker at Chevrei Tikva's January 18 Shabbat service. Rabbi Hachen discussed, among other topics, what membership in the UAHC could mean for Chevrei Tikva.

**Yakhdav** (Montreal)—Yakhdav has grown considerably in its first three years, especially in terms of the number of women. Its telephone list is now 50 percent women, a dramatic increase over the 10 percent of last year. To continue this trend, Yakhdav is encouraging women to volunteer for its Steering Committee. Also, Yakhdav showed *Half the Kingdom*, a film on the role of women in Judaism, last January.



## Contributions

Sha'ar Zahav welcomes all contributions, of all sizes, to mark any event, and to any of our funds. Contributions will be acknowledged in the *Forward* unless requested otherwise.

Donations were made to Sha'ar Zahav's funds in the past months by the following contributors:

### *General Fund*

*We encourage donations to the General Fund to help offset our budget deficit.*

**Ami Zusman**, in honor of CSZ's continuing commitment to social justice and equity as demonstrated at the January 6 congregational meeting

**Ami Zusman**, in memory of Benjamin Hertzl Saperstein

**Ami Zusman**, in memory of Cheryl Orvis

**Allen Harris**, in memory of his great aunt and godmother, Gertrude Harris

**Jeffrey Sundheim**, in loving memory of his father, Robert G. Sundheim

**Susan Sobel-Feldman**, in honor of Robert Coffman's beautiful Shabbat Shirah flyer

**Allen Harris**, in memory of Carl Kritzman

**Carol Heller**, in memory of her mother, Alice Florsheim Heller and Elvera Maimone Cleaves, grandmother of Annie Larson

**Judith Wolfe**

**Jeffrey Kilpatrick**, in memory of his lover John Ferencz

**Lee Morrow**, in memory of George Ash

**Betty Kalis**, in memory of Dorothy Hodes

**Hal Podgur**, in honor of the birth of Miriam Eve Ross-Hirsch

**Susan Sobel-Feldman**, in honor of Jonathan Schwartz' innumerable gifts as a scholar and a friend

**Richard Inlander**, in honor of Irene Ogus' service as chair of the personnel committee

**Phil Resnick**, in memory of Dan Matt

**Marion Trentman**, in memory of her grandmother, Marion Howes

**Judy Macks**, in celebration of the birth of Max Anthony Blachman-Gentile

**Jordan Lee**, for the lovely services on the High Holidays

**Nancy Epstein**, in memory of her sister, Marilyn E. Levine

**David Stein**, in memory of his grandparents, Ben and Yetta Shuchat

**Sharon Saslafsky and Catherine Dodd**, in memory of Nobie Morgan, mother of Mary Morgan

**Blanche Blachman and Adrienne Forshay**, in memory of Nobie Morgan, mother of Mary Morgan

**Alex Ingersoll and David Stein**, in honor of the new home of All Action Awards (CSZ's plaquemaker)

**Jenny Helbraun**, in memory of our beloved Enoch Harrison

**Judy Macks**, in memory of Tristan Palermino and David Glassberg

**Don Albert**, in honor of the hospitality of Cy and Lynn Levine

**Robert Cohen**, in memory of Fred McAuliffe

**Zelda and Oscar Blechman**, in honor of their son Howard's birthday

**Alex Ingersoll and David Stein**, in honor of Howard Blechman's birthday

### *AIDS Fund*

**Stacy Schuster**, in memory of Rick Cohen

**Paul Glackman**, in memory of Larry B. Seewald

**Neil Hart**, in memory of Tim Elliott

### *Children's Education Fund*

**Marsha Blachman**, in honor of the birth of her son, Max Anthony Blachman-Gentile born on December 24.

**Phyllis and George Mintzer**, in memory of Sarah Weinberger and Ella Fisher

**Blanche Blachman**, in memory of her father, Ben Blachman, grandfather of Ben and Jaclyn Blachman-Forshay

### *Rabbi's Discretionary Fund*

**Susan Sobel-Feldman**, in honor of her rabbi, Yoel Kahn

**Dan Halpern**, in memory of his daughter, Sara

### *Sanctuary Bond Fund*

**Ami Zusman**, in support of Central American refugees

### *Social Action Fund*

**Marsha Blachman**, in memory of her father, Ben Blachman

### *Torah Fund*

**Paul Quinn**, in honor of Steve Unger's birthday

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav  
and the  
World Congress of  
Gay and Lesbian  
Jewish Organizations  
present



## THE 12TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF GAY AND LESBIAN JEWS

San Francisco, California • May 24-27, 1991

Join gay, lesbian and bisexual Jews throughout the world for a fun, spiritual, informative and exciting weekend conference.

### Registration fees

For attendees from	until March 15	after March 15
United States or Canada	\$135	\$160
Other nations	\$110	\$135

The registration fee includes: one lunch; one dinner dance; one brunch; lesbian/gay comedy and music show; Shabbat services and oneg shabbat; four workshop sessions; keynote speaker; and much more.

**Send your check  
or write to us for  
more information:**

12th International Conference  
c/o Congregation Sha'ar Zahav  
220 Danvers Street  
San Francisco, California 94114  
USA

Telephone (415) 861-6932





## Birthdays

3/2	Donald Gordon
3/3	Joshua Michael Cohen
3/3	Lin Turner
3/5	Edward Pollock
3/6	Laurie Joan Mintz
3/6	Adrienne Forshay
3/7	Allen Harris
3/8	Andy Zimmerman
3/8	Ann Biderman
3/9	Laurie Davis
3/9	Perry Paker
3/9	Jim Dobkins
3/10	Dana Vinicoff
3/12	Deborah Rochelle Tirschwell
3/13	Ari Chaim Adler
3/17	Roger Gross
3/21	Laurence Cohen
3/21	Mike Abramson
3/21	Jeffrey Shuman
3/22	Shawn Ritter
3/23	Blanche Blachman
3/24	Jay Ladin
3/25	Lynn Bravewomon
3/27	Rebecca
3/28	Francie Hornstein
3/29	Harold Parker
3/29	Bob Gutterman
3/30	Susan Greenspan
4/2	Victoria Berdon
4/6	Roberta Weber
4/7	Judy Macks
4/7	Gordon Osser
4/9	Max Lear
4/12	Katherine Grace Simon
4/12	Terry Rothchild Rose
4/13	Richard Adam Goldwasser
4/14	Lyssa Friedman
4/15	Susan Michelle Stahl
4/15	Luana Willis
4/17	Diana Buchbinder
4/18	Ethan Inlander
4/19	Sandra Butler
4/19	Alita Rosenfeld
4/19	Sandy Meyers
4/19	Martin Spector
4/20	Bill Ashley-Dobbin
4/20	Leonard Brill
4/20	Aaron Nacamulli
4/22	Sandra Blair
4/23	Eli Weinstein
4/24	Susan Beth Fraimow-Wong
4/24	Caroline Isaacs
4/25	Brian Ellis
4/26	Sarah R. Comerchero
4/27	Chris Camp
4/29	Shirley Liberman
4/30	Judith Klain

## Sorry, Lonnie and Shirley

The *Forward* inadvertently miscaptioned the front-page photo of the January 1991 issue. Shirley Liberman was food coordinator of the Chanukah party, not a co-coordinator. Lonnie Weiss served admirably as co-coordinator.

## Synagogue Information

**Rabbi Yoel Kahn**

### Officers:

*President*, Merry Luskin  
*Vice President*, Allan Gold  
*Treasurer*, Brett Trueman  
*Recorder*, Gail Friedlander

### Office Personnel:

*Manager*, Mark Pressler

### Va'ad (Board) Members:

Claudia Bernard  
 Ann Biderman  
 Tiela Chalmers  
 Steve Elman  
 Lisa Katz  
 Jeffrey Miller  
 Alita Rosenfeld  
 Judy Schwartz  
 Lin Turner

### Committee Chairs:

*Bikkur Cholim*, by committee  
*Brotherhood*, Eric Keitel  
*Building*, Jeffrey Miller  
*Bylaws*, Edward Pollock  
*Cemetery*, Richard Inlander  
*Children's Chavurah*, Aaron Cooper  
*Cookbook Project*, Robin Leonard  
*Education*, by committee  
*Finance*, Ben Schalit  
*Gift Shop*, by committee  
*Israel Chavurah*, Ron Lezell  
*Long-Range Planning*, Tiela Chalmers & Daniel Chesir

*Membership*, Judy Schwartz  
*Newsletter*, Howard Blechman  
*Oneg*, by committee  
*Past Presidents Council*, Don Albert  
*Personnel*, by committee  
*Public Relations*, Sharyn Saslafsky  
*Rabbi Liaison*, Aaron Cooper  
*Religious School*, Ellen Gierson  
*Ritual*, Larry Wexler  
*Social Action*, Jonathan Mesinger & Lisa Katz  
*Social Program*, Marc Mencher  
*Women's Chavurah*, Ann Biderman

**Office Hours:** Mon. 8-5; Tues. 8-4:30; Wed., Thu. 8-2:30; Fri. 8-3. Phones will be answered Mon.-Fri. 10-2.

**Services** are held every Friday evening beginning at 8:15 pm (except as noted), with an Oneg Shabbat following services. Services are generally held on the second and last Saturday of each month at 10:30 am—check calendar for each month.

**Library Hours:** Open during office hours, on Saturdays from 3 to 5 pm, and on the second and fourth Mondays each month from 7:30 to 10 pm.

**Gift Shop Hours:** First and third Tuesdays, 3-5 pm; second and fourth Mondays, 7:30-10 pm; Fridays, 7:30-8:05 pm

**Emergency Number:** In an emergency, the Congregation can be contacted outside of office hours by calling 420-9718.

**Member** of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (Richard Inlander, Mike Rankin, Liaisons) and of the World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations (Eric Keitel, Liaison).

**Congregation Sha'ar Zahav** (Congregation of the Golden Gate) is located in the Upper Market District of San Francisco at 220 Danvers at Caselli, which is one block south of the intersection of 18th and Market streets. By public transport, take MUNI bus 33 Stanyan to 18th and Danvers and walk one block south on Danvers to Caselli.

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## MARCH

## אָדר אַ - נִיסָן

**1 Friday**  
**15 Adar**  
• 7:30–8:05pm, Gift shop open  
• 8:15pm, Services, *Ki Tisa*, Kathy Simon and Susan Unger

**2 Saturday**  
**16 Adar**  
• 6pm, Purim party

**3 Sunday**  
**17 Adar**

**4 Monday**  
**18 Adar**  
• 7pm, Education Committee

**5 Tuesday**  
**19 Adar**  
• 7:30pm, Kaballah class  
• 7:45pm, Prayerbook class

**6 Wednesday**  
**20 Adar**  
• 7:15pm, Prayerbook Hebrew  
• 8:30pm, Jewish Philosophy

**7 Thursday**  
**21 Adar**  
• 6:30pm, Long-Range Planning meeting  
• 7:30pm, Children's Education meeting

**8 Friday**  
**22 Adar**  
• 7:30–8:05pm, Gift shop open  
• 8:15pm, Services, *Veyakel-Pekude*, Steve Weitz and Rabbi Kahn  
• East Bay services at 1612 East 38th, Oakland

**9 Saturday**  
**23 Adar**  
• 9:30am, Kadimah

**10 Sunday**  
**24 Adar**  
• 11:15am, Women's Chavurah brunch, La Méditerranée, 288 Noe at Market  
• 4–7pm, New members' potluck; call 532-9661 for information

**11 Monday**  
**25 Adar**  
• 6:30pm, Va'ad meeting

**12 Tuesday**  
**26 Adar**  
• 7:30pm, Kaballah class  
• 7:45pm, Prayerbook class

**13 Wednesday**  
**27 Adar**  
• 7:15pm, Prayerbook Hebrew  
• 8:30pm, Jewish Philosophy

**14 Thursday**  
**28 Adar**

**15 Friday**  
**29 Adar**  
• CSZ at Camp Swig  
• 6:30pm, Shabbat dinner  
• 7:30–8:05, Gift shop open  
• 8:15pm, Services, *Vayikra*, Mike Rankin and Nancy Snow

**16 Saturday**  
**1 Nisan**  
• CSZ at Camp Swig

**17 Sunday**  
**2 Nisan**  
• CSZ at Camp Swig

**18 Monday**  
**3 Nisan**

**19 Tuesday**  
**4 Nisan**  
• 7:30pm, Kaballah class  
• 7:45pm, Prayerbook class

**20 Wednesday**  
**5 Nisan**  
• 7:15pm, Prayerbook Hebrew  
• 8:30pm, Jewish Philosophy

**21 Thursday**  
**6 Nisan**  
• 7:30, Bikkur Cholim

**22 Friday**  
**7 Nisan**  
• 7:30–8:05pm, Gift shop open  
• 8:15pm, Services, *Tzav*, Daniel Chesir and Rabbi Kahn

**23 Saturday**  
**8 Nisan**  
• 9:30am, Kadimah, parents program

**24 Sunday**  
**9 Nisan**

**25 Monday**  
**10 Nisan**

**26 Tuesday**  
**11 Nisan**  
• 7:30pm, Kaballah class  
• 7:45pm, Prayerbook class

**27 Wednesday**  
**12 Nisan**  
• 7:15pm, Prayerbook Hebrew  
• 8:30pm, Jewish Philosophy

**28 Thursday**  
**13 Nisan**  
• 6:30pm, Ritual Committee

**29 Friday**  
**14 Nisan**  
**Erev Pesach**  
• First Seder  
• No Friday evening service

**30 Saturday**  
**15 Nisan**  
**First Day of Passover**  
• No Saturday morning service  
• Congregational Seder, Fort Mason

**31 Sunday**  
**16 Nisan**  
**Second Day of Passover**

**5 Friday, April 5**  
**21 Nisan**  
**Seventh Day of Passover**  
• 8:15pm, Services, *Shemini*, Lyssa Friedman and Larry Wexler

*Note: Gray areas indicate religious services.*

## Condolences

To Betty Kalis on the loss of her sister, Dorothy Hodes.

To Mike Rankin on the loss of his friend, Bob McElwaine.

To Jazz Duberman on the loss of her mother, Eli Sheva Duberman.

To Susan Greenspan on the loss of her great aunt, Sophie Reiss.



## MONTHLY SERVICES IN THE EAST BAY

*We have begun having monthly Friday evening services in the East Bay.  
Services begin at 8:15 pm.*

*Ones are pot-luck--bring a simple dish or beverage, and serving containers  
and utensils if necessary.*

## SERVICE SCHEDULE

MARCH 8 - Join us in the home of Ed Tanowitz, at 1612 East 38th Street in Oakland.

APRIL 19 - Join us in the home of Mark Weisman at 6122 Lawton Avenue in Oakland.







# Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

## Congregational Seder Reservation Form

*Saturday March 30th*

*Fort Mason Officers' Club*

*(Foot of Franklin at Bay Street)*

*Free Parking Available*

*Doors Open at 5:45; Seder starts promptly at 6:30 pm*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No(s). \_\_\_\_\_

Please reserve the following  
number of places for:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Members (at \$22.00 each)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Non-Members (at \$27.00 each)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Children under 12 (at \$12 each)

*Our synagogue subsidizes the cost of the seder for children, individuals unable to afford the full cost, and other general costs. Can you help with this?*

Please indicate your choice of entrees  
(numbers of each)

- \_\_\_\_\_ Roast Chicken
- \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian Plate

*I wish to donate \$ \_\_\_\_\_ toward seder subsidies.*

*I/we request subsidy \_\_\_\_\_*

*My check is enclosed for a total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.*

*All seats will be reserved and will be at pre-assigned tables. Tables will seat 16 or 18 persons. You may reserve a full or half table by either 1) indicating all names on reverse of this form, or 2) by paying in advance for all tickets requested. Unless members' names are indicated, all tickets will be at \$27.00 per person.*

Signing for the hearing impaired can be requested when reservation is made. Information will be available at the seder regarding the annual Passover Me'ot Chittim appeal, which collects funds to be distributed to various community organizations to help feed the hungry.

Mail to: Congregational Seder  
Congregation Sha'ar Zahav  
220 Danvers Street  
San Francisco, CA 94114

*All reservations must be received by  
Friday, March 15th*



